



## **What is the BPW tree trimming and vegetation removal policy?**

Our policy is to maintain the equipment and infrastructure that is used to service our customers. Public safety requires that BPW take measures when our equipment, etc. is located on or near the customer's property including activities such as tree trimming and vegetation removal. Tree trimming is usually done in the late fall, while vegetation removal is done year-round. Trees that require extensive trimming throughout the year are removed. This practice allows the service to be safe and reliable.

Although provisions of rights-of-way and easements typically grant the BPW the authority to trim trees without additional property-owner permission, we take additional steps to notify them in advance when this occurs.

However, when an unusual or emergency situation occurs, it may be necessary to trim trees without first notifying the property owner in order to restore service or eliminate safety hazards.

The Board requires clear access to all BPW equipment including pad mounted equipment with a minimum of ten feet of unrestricted space in front of a pad-mounted transformer and three feet on all other sides of the equipment.

Obstructions such as fences, shrubs, trees, and storage sheds, etc. should not impair entry of the BPW employee into the transformer as they present a potential safety risk and may result in the removal of such without notice.

For your protection, please avoid making contact with pad mounted electrical equipment and never allow children to play on or near the location as well. BPW pad mounted equipment include: transformers, switch gear, sectionalizing cabinets, and secondary risers.

Property owners must maintain adjacent public utility easements or rights-of-way in a safe and sanitary condition. Fences enclosing easements must be kept structurally sound. No fences are permitted to enclose electric utility facilities. All vegetation on public utility easements or rights-of-way must be trimmed to allow utility service at all times.